

## Carbon Fee and Dividend Resolution

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3 **WHEREAS** climate change is already causing stronger storms, droughts, and floods,  
4 and threatening habitats on which our ecosystems depend, and is expected to create  
5 more damage as greenhouse gas emissions increase;

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7 **WHEREAS** these threats to our physical environment in turn threaten the social,  
8 political, and economic environment through secondary effects, including displacement  
9 of populations, resource conflicts, loss of crops, and more;

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11 **WHEREAS** these effects will cause the most harm to vulnerable populations, including  
12 young people, the elderly, and those who have historically been excluded from sources  
13 of power;

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15 **WHEREAS** numerous scientists from a wide range of disciplines have warned of the  
16 imminent threat of climate change and the urgent need to act now to prevent the worst  
17 outcomes;

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19 **WHEREAS** the nations that have contributed the most to global warming have a  
20 responsibility to reduce their emissions dramatically;

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22 **WHEREAS** fossil fuels are the most significant cause of greenhouse gas emissions;

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24 **WHEREAS** the development of alternative energy requires significant investment;

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26 **WHEREAS** a simple but effective method to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is to  
27 impose a fee on fossil fuels at their source, which may discourage consumption while  
28 encouraging investment in non-carbon alternatives;

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30 **WHEREAS** a dividend can redistribute some or all of the revenue from this fee to  
31 consumers;

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33 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party  
34 encourages its Congressional Delegation to support legislation in Congress, such as  
35 H.R. 3242, the Save Our Climate Act of 2011.

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38 Submitted by the 36<sup>th</sup> Legislative District County Democrats to the Washington State  
39 Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its June 2, 2012 Convention. (Date  
40 Submitted 5/3/2012)

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42 Recommended 'PASS WITH AMENDMENTS' by the Subcommittee on Agriculture,  
43 Economic Justice and Development, Energy and the Environment, and Transportation  
44 at its May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting in Ellensburg.

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46 Recommended 'PASS' by the Platform Committee at its June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in Seattle.

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48 'PASSED' by the Washington State Democratic Convention at its June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in  
49 Seattle.